

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL JOSEPH  
REED

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2021*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with deep gratitude and great admiration that I rise today to honor and commend an extraordinary public servant, husband, and friend of long standing, Mr. Michael Joseph Reed. Michael, my Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor, will be retiring from federal public service effective August 3, 2021. He will leave behind a stellar career and a void in my office that will be hard to fill. A retirement reception will be held for him at 5:00 p.m. on July 28, 2021 in Washington, D.C., attended by numerous friends, family, colleagues, and others with whom his life and career have intersected.

Michael Joseph Reed is a native of Buffalo, N.Y. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama. He also earned a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Michael's career in public service began as a Presidential Management Intern (PMI) at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Budget Policy. This experience led him to his first Capitol Hill position as an intern for former Congressman Louis Stokes of Ohio, who was a member of the House Appropriations Committee. After leaving Congressman Stokes, he joined the staff of Congressman William Gray, Chairman of the House Budget Committee and a member of the Appropriations Committee, as Legislative Director.

After leaving Congressman Gray's office, he was Vice-President for Marketing at the United Negro College Fund. He was also the Director of Regional Card Marketing and Vice-President for Government Affairs for the American Express Company.

In 2003, when I was selected to serve on the House Appropriations Committee and was searching for a seasoned Appropriations Specialist and Legislative Policy Advisor, I was blessed to hire Michael as my Special Assistant for the Appropriations Committee. He served in that capacity for twelve (12) years until he was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff in 2011 and Chief of Staff in 2015.

For eighteen (18) years, I have been matriculating in "The Michael Reed School of Budgetary Policy." He has been a master teacher of the process and its nuances. While he initially had no working knowledge of agriculture issues, he worked hard to learn these issues and used his skills to help my growth and effectiveness in the Agriculture Subcommittee of Appropriations and facilitate my securing the Chairmanship. Michael drove the Congressional response in the form of agriculture disaster relief over the past three (3) years to include typhoons, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, droughts, and other exigencies. Georgia and American Agriculture were able to get relief because of his significant work. Georgia agriculture producers and rural communities benefited mightily from his efforts. Michael led my staff with great aplomb. He never told me only what I wanted to hear but always told me what I needed to hear. Because of him, we have been able to serve the people better.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said, "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." Michael has paid his rent and paid it well.

Having served in the public sector, corporate sector, and the nonprofit sector, he has truly made a difference. But none of this would have been possible without the grace of God, the love and support of his loving wife, Attorney Diane Fields Reed, his father-in-law, Judge Richard Fields, and their beloved dog, Alexandra.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives, to join my wife, Vivian and me, along with our entire Congressional staff, past and present, and the 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia in honoring and commending Mr. Michael Joseph Reed on his outstanding career and upon the occasion of his retirement. We wish him well as he begins a new chapter in his life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2021*

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 230 on Rep. Ocasio-Cortez Amendment, I mistakenly recorded my vote as nay when I should have voted aye.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF NARDIN ACADEMY ART TEACHER GAILE AMIGONE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2021*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Gaile Amigone. Gaile has been an art teacher at Nardin Academy Elementary in Buffalo since 1993. Her 30-year tenure has left an indelible imprint on Nardin Academy.

A 1975 graduate of SUNY Buffalo State College, Gaile spent much of her career teaching elementary art to kindergarten through eighth grade students. As a result of her encouragement to develop their creativity and talent, many of her students have gone on to study art at the high school and college level.

Aside from her classroom duties, Gaile was actively involved in the school community. She served as the director for yearly theatre productions presented to the Nardin Community and their families. She also dedicated her time to conducting After School Art Enrichment Programs for students who were interested in additional studio art immersion and instruction.

Gaile routinely welcomed her former students back into her classroom where they shared their growth and development with her, as well as their appreciation for her foundational role in their success as artists. It is clear that she has made a significant impact on many students' talents, creative abilities, and passion for the arts.

Wife of attorney Nicholas P. Amigone III, mother of three sons, and grandmother to nine

grandchildren, Gaile is retiring with a legacy of dedication to the artistic and cultural enrichment of young minds.

I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mrs. Gaile Amigone for her service to the Nardin Academy community and the positive impact she has had on generations of Nardin students.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN "JAY" KALPAKOFF

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2021*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John "Jay" Kalpakoff. Jay passed away on June 16, 2021. Jay was a selfless husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Jay was born on November 8, 1948 in Los Angeles, California where he was raised. He became a third-generation garbage collector, as part owner of Metropolitan Waste. Jay was a boss who enjoyed helping his employees through sponsoring many local sports teams and would help with scholarships to encourage continuing education.

When Jay decided to move to the Central Valley with just one truck, he had a dream. Jay hoped to one day own his own garbage collection company. Through dedication and perseverance his goal was achieved, and Mid Valley Disposal was established. His dream was to have the ability to continue to give back to his community. Jay cherished his business and was an integral part of its day to day operations. Jay treated all his employees like his own family, and he cherished each of the local communities that his company served.

Jay was known for having a huge heart and always giving back to others, whether through this philanthropy or just lending a helping hand. He lived to see the community around him thrive and it was apparent as he gave back to local charities and food banks, to name a few. He made friends everywhere he went and loved to tell stories.

Jay was truly an inspiration and he moved many with his wisdom, character and humor. But the most important thing to him, was his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Natalie; children Joshua, Jonathan, Joseph, Tatiana, Justin; his daughter-in-law Wendy and his grandchildren Harrison, Remy and Cash.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of John "Jay" Kalpakoff. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. I join his family and friends in honoring and celebrating his life.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CHRISTOPHER CARTWRIGHT

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2021*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Christopher Cartwright, who passed away in May 2021, at age